

Applicant: Joseph F. Michalec
Serial No.: 09/963,951
Group Art Unit: 1714

REMARKS

Claims 1-71 remain in the subject application and claims 1, 28, 44, 59, 69 are in independent form. Claims 1-68 stand allowed and such allowance is appreciated.

Claims 69-71 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 21-36 of United States Patent No. 6,657,002. Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) to overcome this rejection and claims 69-71 are therefore deemed allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant believes that no fees are due, however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 08-2789.

Respectfully submitted

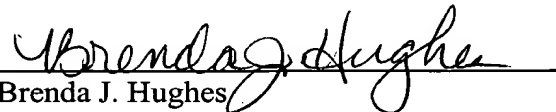
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

July 1, 2004
Date


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Amendment for United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/963,951, filed 9/25/2001, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on July 1, 2004.


Brenda J. Hughes